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RURAL DISTRICT OF HOLLINGBOURN

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1958

on

THE HEALTH OF THE RURAL DISTRICT OF HOLLINGBOURN

by the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE LIBRARY 25 JAN 1968

F. H. M. DUMMER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

- of the -

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT

Medical Officer of Health	F.H.M. Dummer, M.B., Ch.B., C.P.H., D.P.H.
Senior Public Health Inspector	Chas. W. Page, C.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.
Additional Public Health Inspectors	Geoffrey H. Chambers, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
	Stanley Brook, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B.
Cleansing Superintendent	Lionel P. Datson, M.M.
Clerk	F.A. Wright.

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13 Tonbridge Road,
Maidstone,
Kent.
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Public Health Department,
73 College Road,
Maidstone,
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Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1958 on the health of the Rural District of Hollingbourn.

The health record for the year has been a good one, and as you will see from the comparative figures in the pages that follow, your district, except in the case of tuberculosis mortality, compares very favourably with that of England and Wales and the surrounding local authorities. This tuberculosis mortality rate is an unusual one, and no firm conclusion can be drawn from it. The amount of tuberculosis in your district is not high, but the existence of a sanitorium tends to focus this disease in an artificial light.

The work of the Rural District grows from year to year, and you will see from Mr. Page's report that a very considerable body of work was undertaken by way of inspections, of which 4,284 were carried out during the year. When one considers that the Public Health Department during 1958 was combined with the Surveyor's Department, the bulk of those inspections fell on Mr. Chambers and Mr. Brook your Public Health Inspectors, and involved a considerable amount of travelling.

Now that the Department has been re-organised it is hoped that more attention can be paid to the purely public health problems, and a greater regularity will be possible in much of the routine work.

One of the main concerns of your Council at the moment is to see that sewerage is made available in as many communities as possible, and this aspect of your work has been given a considerable degree of priority.

The schemes envisaged will add greatly to the health amenities of your district, and I know it is your intention to widen their scope as far as the financial burden can be carried.

You will see that I have referred in this Report to the "community immunity" agains infectious diseases, in particular diphtheria and poliomyelitis. There is no doubt that it is through a high level of immunity within the population as a whole that the biological evolution of an organism can be affected, thereby changing its virulence and contributing greatly to the safety of the area.

I have expressed my views at your committee meetings on the kind of publicity which appears to be necessary before it is brought home to people that the weapons of protection are in their own hands, and that they only need to be used. This has been underlined by the extended programme of poliomyelitis vaccination during the year and the poor response under normal conditions that accompanied it. By further nation wide publicity, however, the position has improved and you now have within your district a growing caucus of immunity which will afford security that basically all parents of young children must surely desire.

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One of the major public health interests which has arison during the year has been the concern felt over the hazards of ionizing radiations. Although as a rural district we have not been intimately engaged in the public health aspects of radiation, the Council will recall that this subject has been spoken about in committee on several occasions, and it is one which is obviously going to be of considerable importance in the near future.

This is a subject of great complexity, and we are at a stage in its development making it seldom possible to be dogmatic on any single aspect. I think, therefore, it is worth while to repeat what I have said in reports to other authorities, that we do know that the natural background radiation, even in this nuclear age, is of a far higher degree than any addition attributed to the so-called "man-made radiations".

The interest of local authorities in the future will be centred around the relationship of radiation to food and water, and to the disposal of radioactive waste. This latter problem is complicated, and in certain circumstances might well prove a heavy financial burden. Intense research is going on, however, in order to ascertain a method less cumbersome and less costly than the present one. The field of public health is expanding rapidly, and we would make a mistake if we were to ignore this subject, however remote at the moment it would appear to be to the inhabitants of the rural district.

It is my duty and pleasure to record my appreciation of the fine work undertaken by your Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. C.W. Page, and his Deputy Mr. G.H. Chambers - who on 1st April 1959 became your Senior Public Health Inspector - and the Additional Inspector Mr. S. Brook. All have had a great deal to do, and have carried out their work in a spirit of efficiency and enthusiasm.

Finally, the work of the Public Health Department vitally requires the support and encouragement of the Public Health Committee and the Council, and I am glad to acknowledge that this has in all respects been given.

I have the Honour to be,
Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. H. M. DUMMER

Medical Officer of Health.

26th June, 1959

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (in acres)	56,810
Estimated resident population 1958	16,770
Number of inhabited houses, end of 1958, according to rate books	5,150
Rateable value, December 1958	£173,043
Sum represented by a penny rate	£655

Extract from Vital Statistics

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births - legitimate	145	110	255
- illegitimate	11	8	19
	156	118	274

Live Birth rate per 1,000 population - Crude	16.33
Corrected	17.14

	Male	Female	Total
Still Births	4	2	6

Still-birth rate per 1,000 live and still-births 21.42

Total live and still-births 280

	Male	Female	Total
Infant deaths	4	2	6

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - total	21.89
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - legitimate	23.52
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - illegitimate	nil

Neo-natal (first 4 weeks) mortality rate per 1,000 live births 14.59

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births 6.93

Maternal deaths (including abortion)	nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	nil

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths	109	85	194

Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	Crude	11.56
	Corrected	10.86

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	21
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis	1

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease

Disease	Total cases notified.	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	12	-
Diphthoria	-	-
Measles	30	-
Erysipelas	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-
Pneumonia	2	11
Dysentery	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Acute anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-
Anthrax	-	-
Malaria	-	-
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-
	45	11

1958 was a year of few notifications of infectious disease, the main difference in the notification list between this year and last was due to the relatively small number of measles cases notified in 1958. As I have explained to the Public Health Committee measles tends to occur in two-yearly cycles, and it so happens that 1958 was not a year in which this disease was dominant.

Again, and for the twelfth year, no case of diphthoria occurred in your district. This very satisfactory state of affairs is only brought about by a high degree of community immunity, and will only remain as such as long as this barrier of protection is in existence.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis last year, as compared with 11 in 1957.

There was one case of food poisoning which was an isolated incident and did not result in any secondary cases.

The cases of scarlet fever were mild and did not present any untoward difficulties.

Analysis of Cases of Notifiable Diseases - 1958

Disease	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-45	46-65	66 & over	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	1	1	4	3	3	-	-	-	12
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	nil
Measles	1	6	5	17	-	-	1	-	-	30
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	nil
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	nil
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	nil
Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	nil
Acute anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	nil
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	7	6	21	4	4	2	-	-	45

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The following table gives the numbers of persons resident in Hollingbourn Rural District who received injections against Poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December 1958.

Year of Birth	Given third injection	Given two injections
1958	-	10
1957	2	91
1956	10	164
1955	6	132
1954	5	113
1953	7	85
1952	4	108
1951	6	95
1950	5	61
1949	4	54
1948	4	63
1947	7	65
1946	1	113
1945	1	92
1944	-	117
Others	3	180
Total	65	1,543

In 1957, 453 children received vaccination against poliomyelitis. This year, with the extension of the scheme, no fewer than 1,543 were given at least two injections, and 65 received a full course of three injections. It should be remembered that it was not until September 1958 that the Ministry of Health allowed the extension of this scheme to enable a third injection to be given. It is hoped that in the next Report the figure in this section will greatly exceed the number for 1958.

Poliomyelitis is such a crippling and insidious disease that it behoves us to take every precaution that is possible to prevent the onslaught of this illness. It is still true that the majority of persons affected by poliomyelitis are under the age of 15 years, and it has been found that when the community barrier against infection reaches a certain level, it is then pushed back further until poliomyelitis is in truth "infantile paralysis."

Maidstone and district in 1957 had a sharp and tragic reminder of the gravity of poliomyelitis, and it must be a source of great security to the population at large to know that vaccination is available. It is now up to the community to use the vaccine and to see that the vaccinial state is maintained.



Whooping Cough Immunisation

The following are the Whooping Cough immunisation returns for 1958 based on record cards received by the County Medical Officer.

Year of Birth	Whooping Cough Immunisation Primary
1958	31
1957	91
1956	18
1955	3
1954	-
1953	3
1952	-
1951	-
1950	-
1949	-
1948	1
1947	-
1946	-
1945	-
1944	-
Before 1944	-
Total	147

Although whooping cough is regarded as a relatively mild disease, leading to few complications, it should not be forgotten that in infancy it is still a major cause of disablement, and can be a very grave illness indeed. Here again, a considerable amount of protection, at least against the more serious types of whooping cough, can be afforded through immunisation which is undertaken in the early months of life, and reinforced either immediately prior to the first year in school, or during the first school year.

This immunisation gives protection which is well worth while, and should never be neglected on the grounds that the illness is now "almost negligible."

In England and Wales in 1957 (the most recent return) there were 88 deaths from whooping cough, which although it is a low fatality rate, is certainly not one to be ignored.

By the end of 1957 all but 10 of the local health authorities had obtained authority under the National Health Service Act, 1946 to make arrangements for immunisation against this disease. It is considered that the primary injection should be given at about the third month of life in order to mitigate the serious effects which the illness might cause in infancy.

Smallpox Vaccination

The following are the Smallpox Vaccination returns for 1958 based on record cards received by the County Medical Officer.

Year of Birth	Smallpox Vaccination	
	Primary	Reinforcing.
1958	82	-
1957	42	-
1956	2	-
1955	1	-
1954	1	-
1953	-	-
1952	2	-
1951	-	-
1950	1	-
1949	-	-
1948	1	-
1947	-	-
1946	-	-
1945	1	-
1944	-	-
Before 1944	3	5
Total	136	5

Smallpox vaccination, apart from its obvious vital health implication, is almost one of the "social necessities" of these days of modern travel. The risk of primary vaccination in infancy is negligible, but for an adult who is vaccinated for the first time at a late age, inconvenience may be quite considerable.

Since International Certificates of Vaccination are required for travel to almost any part of the world, the advantages of the primary vaccination attended by little or no inconvenience, with a revaccination done in adult life, should outweigh any arguments against smallpox protection.

There are also large areas of the world where smallpox is still an endemic disease, and the risk of bringing in the illness through air travel is still a very real one.



Immunisation against Diphtheria 1958

The following is a return of the number of children under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1958, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1944)

Year of Birth	Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1954 - 1958	1953 or earlier
1944	33	115
1945	26	128
1946	37	171
1947	38	118
1948	58	137
1949	110	134
1950	91	87
1951	86	94
1952	78	106
1953	157	13
1954	156	-
1955	144	-
1956	136	-
1957	109	-
1958	21	-
Total	1,280	1,103

The following are the Diphtheria Immunisation figures for 1958 based on record cards received by the County Medical Officer.

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation	
	Primary	Reinforcing
1958	21	-
1957	94	1
1956	17	-
1955	3	-
1954	-	1
1953	6	34
1952	1	18
1951	-	2
1950	-	1
1949	-	1
1948	1	2
1947	-	1
1946	2	4
1945	-	1
1944	-	-
Before 1944	-	-
Total	145	66



Tuberculosis

I am indebted to Dr. D.L. Pugh, the Chest Physician, for the following details of the numbers of contacts of known cases of tuberculosis examined during the year, and the number found to be suffering from tuberculosis. These figures relate to the area of the Chest Clinic, which coincides with the area of the four authorities, Maidstone Borough, Maidstone R.D., Hollingbourn R.D., and Malling R.D.

(a) Number of contacts seen during 1958 of newly notified cases of tuberculosis 436

(b) Number of contacts examined during 1958 of cases notified prior to 1958 457

(c) Number of contacts in (a) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis 3

(d) Number of contacts in (b) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis 2

Age Groups	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 - 35	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 - 45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
46 - 55	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
56 - 65	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
66 and over	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Totals	4	3	-	-	2	2	-	-

An opportunity has been taken during the year to review the number of cases on the "active list" of tuberculosis cases. This has resulted in a decrease in the number on our register from 164 to 93.

One of the signs that tuberculosis, although by no means conquered, has bowed to the inevitable onslaught of new specific drugs and the greatly increased facilities of sanitoria, has been the extension of the work of the Chest Physician to have regard to all diseases of the chest. This has enlarged the work of the Chest Clinic, and more and more cases of chest disease other than tuberculosis are being brought to light, particularly in the elderly.

There are still many foci of infection for tuberculosis in the elderly age group, and this is also a very resistant and difficult group to tackle. The indications are, however, that with the increased facilities and the wider use of B.C.G. notable progress is likely to be made in the next two or three decades.

Cancer

Below is an analysis of the deaths from malignant disease according to age groups. No information is available as to the incidence of cancer in any particular occupation.

Deaths from Cancer during 1958

Age groups	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-
2 - 5	-	-
6 - 15	-	-
16 - 25	-	-
26 - 35	-	-
36 - 45	-	-
46 - 55	3	2
56 - 65	-	-
66 and over	7	9
Total	10	11

Deaths from cancer in 1958, distributed according to sites:

Site	Male	Female	Total
Cancer of stomach	1	2	3
Cancer of lung, bronchus	2	1	3
Cancer of breast	-	2	2
Cancer of uterus	-	-	-
Other sites	7	6	13
Total	10	11	21

As will be seen from the above table, the majority of deaths from cancer occur locally in the age groups over 65, although there are significant deaths taking place in the groups in middle life. The number of deaths from cancer of the lung is only half that of last year - an unexplained and not statistically valid decrease, since the figures involved in both years are so small that no real significance can be placed on them.

The over all national figures for cancer of the lung are increasing, despite the publicity which has been put forward on the relationship of this disease to heavy cigarette smoking.





Infantile Mortality 1958

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 - 6 months	7 - 9 months	10 - 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis (Non-tubercular)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
Diarrhoeal diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suffocation	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Injury at Birth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Atelectasis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital malformation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Premature Birth	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Congenital heart disease	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	4	-	-	1	5	-	1	-	-	6

The above deaths occurred in the following parishes:

Headcorn	1
Hawkenbury	1
Sutton Valence ..	1
Detling..	2
Stockbury	1

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Mitchell and Gentlemen,

The past year, destined to be my last full year as your Senior Public Health Inspector has been one of progress with the usual crop of problems.

After continuing the disposal of refuse for the first three months of the year, to the Tovil Destructor, April 1st. saw the commencement of controlled tipping in the partially worked out sand pit in Runham Lane, Harrietsham. This has meant shorter vehicle hauls and our ability to sell a limited amount of paper and light iron.

The year commenced with the knowledge that we had to think again to try to solve the knotty problem of how to dispose of cesspool contents without offence and in a manner which would be acceptable to the Minister. It was decided to endeavour to purchase ten acres of remote woodland, grub it of trees and by alternate dosing of predetermined areas, to plough the land and if possible crop it. The Fordson tractor purchased for the spreading of refuse would be a useful implement. The preliminary steps were made during the year, the site was chosen, the owners consent to sell obtained, and the District Valuers approval to the price received. In August I was compelled to cease tipping on Leeds Castle land in Kingswood.

With the power to dispense licences under the various Acts of Parliament inevitable comes the appeal to the Magistrates Court when one is refused. In the case of procedure under the Public Health Act action is usually limited to this lower Court. The Sorrell case involving a refusal to grant a slaughterhouse licence was heard at the Appeals Committee of the West Kent Quarter Sessions where the Appeal was again disallowed.

No Capital schemes were commenced during the year, apart from the re-laying of part of the main sewer in Sutton Valence, where clay jointed pipes were the cause of many blockages.

Cleansing

A. Cesspool Emptying

The Council operated four vehicles for this purpose which whilst primarily concerned with cesspools they were used for necessary maintenance of permanent Sewage Disposal Works and Housing Site Plants.

Vehicles continued to discharge into the Borough Sewers in St. Peter Street and 1282 loads were disposed of in this way.

The following table shows the monthly and yearly working for 1957 and 1958.

	1957		1958	
Month	Requests	Loads	Requests	Loads
January	260	840	302	610
February	295	802	292	694
March	654	900	395	581
April	226	612	346	796
May	238	635	201	596
June	221	629	210	684
July	277	736	281	912
August	251	656	277	802
September	249	816	213	642
October	232	802	245	710
November	381	903	538	902
December	432	898	218	934
	3716	9229	3518	8863

B. Refuse Collection.

The practice of kerbside collections at fortnightly intervals continued during the year with the necessary deviation from accustomed practice in the case of long driveways and age or infirmity.

Two side loading vehicles and one end loading vehicle with compaction ram were in use. A general purpose vehicle formerly a side loader was also in use at times. As the Refuse Tip at Harrietsham was started on April 1st., the weights of refuse are therefore not available for the full year.

	1957	1958
Month	Tons	Tons
January	200	197
February	192	189
March	196	166
April	201	
May	161	552
June	119	
July	155	
August	157	
September	158	
October	223	
November	181	
December	148	
	2091	

Summary of Inspections.

General

Visits for purpose of water sampling	14
Other visits connected with water supply	15
Civil Defence	8
Drainage	47
Sewage Disposal and Sewers	1273
Refuse Disposal	45
Movable Dwellings	82
Hopper Camps	1
Factories with Power	11
Factories (non-Power)	1
Rodent Control	3
Building Byelaws	783
Petroleum Stores	90
Shop Acts	11
Knackers Yards	26
Miscellaneous	24

Housing.

Initial inspections under the Public Health Act	238
Revisits under the Public Health Act	288
Initial inspections under the Housing Act	246
Revisits under the Housing Act	109
Visits of filthy and verminous premises	4
Visits to Council cottages	129
Miscellaneous Housing visits	7
Rent Act visits	29

Infectious Disease

Visits for disinfection with or without enquiry	21
Food Poisoning enquiries	16

Food Premises.

Slaughterhouses	655
Butchers	8
Bakehouses	17
Dairies	1
Restaurants and Cafes	34
Ice Cream premises	5
Other Food premises	43
	4284

General Statistics.

General Sanitation and Housing Defects.

House Drains repaired	4
New Drains provided or drains reconstructed	8
Houses provided with new water closets	2
Water closets repaired	5
New sinks with trapped wastes provided	2
Cesspools and privy pits repaired	6
Dampness remedied	3
Roofs repaired	6

General Sanitation and Housing Defects. (contd)

Gutters and rainwater pipes repaired	1
Floors and staircases repaired	1
Walls and ceiling repaired	1
Windows and doors repaired	1
Grates and ranges repaired or renewed	1
Sash lines repaired	2
New gullies provided for sinks	1

Water Supplies

Houses connected to mains in 1957	64
Wells examined	-

Infectious Disease

Notifications received	52
Visits made by Public Health Inspectors	21
Number of rooms disinfected	-
Number of vehicles disinfected	-

Notices

Number of informal notices served	39
Number of informal notices complied with	35
Number of Statutory Notices served	19
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	7
Number of Court Proceedings to require compliance with Notice. (Note: in each case Court Orders were made and the work subsequently executed)	1

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of - Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	51	11	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	26	52	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	34	-	-	-
TOTAL	111	63	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences: (a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not seperate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-

3. Outwork

Nature of work	Number of outworkers in August List required by Section 110 (1) (c)
Wearing Apparel making etc.	2

Disposal of the Dead

The Department was called upon to arrange for the burial of one person whose financial resources were insufficient to pay the Undertaker's fees. No monies were recovered, the deceased being too old for a Death Grant to be paid.

Rent Act, 1957

The number of visits made in connection with this legislation was low. Of the 29 visits the majority were revisits concerning applications for Certificates of Disrepair and were all made in the early part of the year. Only three applications for Certificates were received, and it would appear that increased rents allowed under the Act were agreed or successfully negotiated between landlord and the tenant so preventing recourse to your Public Health Department.

Pest Control

Figures for this service involving the use of one Rodent Operator and van, continued to rise. Some saving in operation costs was possible by the use of alternative bases. The operator carried out any necessary disinfections or disinfestations.

SECTION (D)

Housing

The following information regarding housing in the Rural District is set out in the form in which it is asked for by the Ministry of Health:-

1.	Inspections of dwellinghouses during the year:-	
(1)	(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (Under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	484
	(b) Numbers of inspections made for the purpose	881
(2)	(a) Numbers of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1932	- -
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	- -
(3)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	17
(4)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	39

2. Remedy of defects during the year, without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers — 35

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 -

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs -

(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(a) By Owners -

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners -

(c) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied — 39

(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

(a) By Owners — 7

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners -

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 -

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made — 17

(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders — 7

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made -

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit -

4. Housing Act 1936, Part IV

Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year -

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein -

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein -

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year -

Housing Act, 1936, Part IV

Overcrowding (cont'd)

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year -

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases -

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding -

Housing Acts, 1949 and 1954		Improvement Grants
Number of dwellings in respect of which initial applications were received and inspected by Sub-Committee		63
Number of such dwellings approved as suitable for grant purposes		59
Number of such applications refused		4
Number of applications deferred		-
Number of completed applications approved and grants provided		28
Total cost of improvement work involved	£19,685	
Total amount of grants promised	£ 8,195	
Cost of repairs to the dwellings involved	£ 3,441	
Number of cases in which work of improvement was completed and grant paid		28
Total amount of such payments	£ 9,319	

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

The situation with regard to Licences to station and use moveable dwellings is as follows:-

No. of applications received	38
No. of licences issued	36
No. of applications refused	2
No. of applications withdrawn	-
No. of proceedings	-
No. of appeals to Justices	-

Caravan Sites

The individual caravan site continued to provide much work for the Department both under the Public Health and the Town and Country Planning legislation. The distribution by Parishes is as follows:-

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

Caravan Sites (Cont'd)

Parish	No. of caravans
Boughton Malherbe	-
Bicknor	-
Boxley	4
Bredhurst	-
Broomfield	3
Chart Sutton	-
Detling	2
East Sutton	-
Frinsted	-
Harrietsham	1
Headcorn	4
Hollingbourne	1
Hucking	1
Langley	2
Leeds	1
Lenham	2
Otterden	1
Stockbury	4
Sutton Valence	1
Thurnham	2
Ulcombe	4
Wichling	-
Wormshill	-
TOTAL	33

The residential camp at Holm Mill, Harrietsham, was conducted very satisfactorily throughout the year.

Apart from the residential site in private ownership at Harrietsham, a temporary site for residential caravans was licensed to accommodate Contractors Staff engaged on the Maidstone By-Pass works at Detling. In addition a site for four caravans was licensed near Ulcombe to assist a large land owner in providing seasonal labour for the soft fruit season. The site was later abandoned.

Hopper Camps

Main water is now available to all the camps in your area and minor improvements were made to the accommodation in several instances.

Seven hop picking machines were in operation in the area.

CARAVAN SITES

STANDARD CONDITIONS

1. In these conditions "Caravan" shall mean a caravan which is specially designed for drawing by a private car.

2. No moveable dwelling or other vehicle shall be placed on the site except a caravan or vehicle by which such caravan is towed.

3. No more than a stipulated number of caravans shall be situated on the site and each caravan shall be sited at least 20 feet from any other caravan on the site.

4. No erection other than the caravan shall be made or placed on the site except with the approval of the Council.

STANDARD CONDITIONS (Cont'd)

5. The Licensee shall obtain prior approval of the Council to the lay-out of the Caravan site.

6. A wholesome supply of water shall be provided on the site taken from the mains of the appropriate Water Company which shall be available to the occupants of the caravans by means of standpipes so situated that each caravan is within 150 feet thereof.

7. The standpipe shall be properly protected against frost and shall be surrounded by an area of concrete 4 feet square and dished to a gully connected to the drainage system.

8. The Licensee shall provide W.C.'s at the rate of 1 to each 5 caravans with a minimum of two for the use of the occupants of the caravans stationed and occupied upon the site. In addition, the Licensee shall provide sufficient urinal accommodation for the use of the occupants.

9. The Licensee shall provide a drainage system constructed in accordance with the Council's Building Byelaws and connected to the public sewer. (Alternatively, shall provide a drainage system and sewage disposal plant of sufficient capacity and to the satisfaction of the Council's Senior Public Health Inspector).

10. The Licensee shall provide in suitable positions trapped gullies connected to the drainage system to receive waste water from the sink units in the caravans and each gully shall be dished and curbed.

11. The Licensee shall supply British Standard dustbins at the rate of one dustbin to every two caravans and dustbins shall be brought to a convenient point for collection upon days to be agreed upon with the Council's Senior Public Health Inspector.

12. The Licensee shall be responsible for keeping the site clean and tidy and free from litter.

13. The Licensee shall provide and maintain an access road from the highway to the site constructed of concrete or of hardcore or gravel or other suitable material, and also a clean access shall be provided to each caravan.

14. All drains, connections, septic tanks and cesspools shall be constructed in accordance with the Council's Building Byelaws for the time being in force and the work connected therewith shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the Council and be maintained by the Licensee in a proper sanitary condition.

15. The contents of chemical closets shall not be placed in the drainage system and the use of chemical closets in the caravans shall not be permitted except in exceptional and extenuating circumstances.

16. No caravan shall be used for sleeping more than a reasonable number of persons.

17. Adequate provision shall be made for fire fighting purposes.

18. The Licensee shall provide a copy of these conditions to each occupant of a caravan on his first entry on the site.

SECTION "E"

Inspection of Food

Meat Inspection

Every animal slaughtered in your district for human consumption is examined by your inspectors.

	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Cattle	Calves
Number Killed	1726	9439	189	27
Number Inspected	1726	9439	189	27
All diseases except Tuberculosis				
(a) Whole carcases condemned		8	-	-
(b) Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned		698	10	-
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis		7.4	5.2	-
Tuberculosis only				
(a) Whole carcases condemned		3	-	-
(b) Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned		283	5	-
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis		3.0	2.6	-

Weight of Food condemned during the year

Following requests from shop-keepers, the following canned foodstuffs were inspected and found to be unfit for human consumption for the reasons shown:-

4 tins of peas		each 8 ozs.
1 tin peas	Blown,	29 ozs.
2 tins pineapple		each 12 ozs.
1 tin mandarins	damaged,	11 ozs.
1 tin grapefruit		20 ozs.
1 tin beans	and/or	10 ozs.
1 tin herring roes		8 ozs.
2 tins processed peas	internal	each 19 ozs.
1 tin processed peas		10 ozs.
1 tin plums	decomposition	20 ozs.
1 tin peaches		29 ozs.
3 barrels potatoes	Blight and decomposition	94 lbs.

Water Supply

Sampling

Bacteriological Examination

Type of Water	No. of Samples	Results: Unsatisfactory	Results: Satisfactory
Main	3	-	3
Raw	1	1	-

Milk and Dairies

The number of dairymen registered on the 31st December 1957 is as follows:-

Dairies registered	2
Distributors registered	24
Dealers' Licences	
Pasteurised	8
Sterilized	8
Tuberculin Tested	9
Supplementary Licences	
Pasteurised	10
Sterilized	7
Tuberculin Tested	10

One sample of raw milk was taken during the year and was reported satisfactory.

Ice Cream

Ice Cream is retailed from 32 registered shops in the district and in addition 14 restaurants and cafes serve it. All ice cream is prepared and samples taken have shown good results. There are no places where the commodity is manufactured in this district.

Food Hygiene

Clean Food Campaign

The premises in the Rural District in which food is prepared, served or sold are as follows:-

Cafes and Restaurants	15
Residential Hotel	1
Roadhouse	1
Public Houses serving meals	3
Public Houses not serving meals	57
Grocers	58
Greengrocers	2
Fishmongers	2
Bakers	6
Butchers	11

Progress in the improvement of food shops, cafes and restaurants continues.

The number of premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, Section 14, are as follows:-

(1)	For the sale and storage of ice cream	33
(2)	Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled, pressed or preserved food intended for sale	3
(3)	Number of Dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949	2

Disposal of Condemned Food

The condemned food from licensed slaughterhouses is in most cases collected by the Sheppey Glue Works, Queenborough. Small quantities of condemned food are disposed of by incineration, either at the Maidstone Borough Destructor or in the furnace at the Lenham Bacon Factory.

Food Sampling

In addition to the inspection and sampling carried out by your officers the sampling officers of the County Council also take regular samples of all types of food and, as these are of interest, I am including a list supplied by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures.

Article	No.
Antiseptic Throat Sweets	1
Bacon	1
Beecham's Powders in Tablet Form	1
Blue Compound Juniper Pills	1
Bon Bons Liqueur	1
Bread	1
California Syrup of Figs	1
Cheese Sandwich	1
Currants	1
Dairy Butter	1
Finest Pork Chipolata Sausages	1
Fish Spread (Salmon and Tomato)	1
Gin	2
Glycerine, Lemon and Ipecacuanha	1
Gooseberries in Sorbital Syrup	1
Ground White Pepper	1
Herrings in Tomato Sauce	1
Home Made Meat Pie with Egg	1
Home Made Mince Pie	1
Jersey Cream	1
Lemonade	1
Liquorice Cough Mixture	1
Loganberries in Syrup	1
Lystone Salts	1
Milk	39
Orangeade Powder	1
Peaches sweetened without added sugar	1
Pilchards in Tomato Sauce	1
Pork Sausages, Sage flavoured	1
Raspberry Crystals	1
Raspberry Jam	1
Rum	1
Ruskit (used in Sausage Manufacture)	1
Sage	1
Steak and Kidney Pie	1
Sultanas	1
Sweetened Golden Plums	1
Tea	2
Whisky	1
TOTAL	79

Summary

Milks	39
Drugs	7
Spirits	4
Other Samples	29
	79

All of the above samples were genuine with the exception of the following:-

Sample of	Analysis	Action taken
Bread	A small piece of bread approximately 1 inch square with an embedded black speck approximately $\frac{1}{8}$th inch square. Latter consisted of iron filings.	The iron filings were presumably from bakehouse machinery or implements. The baker was informed and undertook to replace a number of old baking tins.
Currants	Contained a certain amount of dirt including stalk, jute fibres and maggots. No insect fragments.	The sample was taken from currants which had been in stock for some time. No further deliveries have been received from the wholesale suppliers in question.
Raspberry Jam	Soluble solids 63.5%, Fruit approximately 55%. Low in soluble solids.	This Jam was manufactured within the area of a neighbouring local authority and the matter was referred to them for investigation.

Pest Control

The work of destruction of rats and mice has continued satisfactorily and public co-operation continues satisfactorily. The summary of the work done is given below, and compared with 1956 and 1957:-

	1956	1957	1958
Number of visits made for all purposes, including survey and treatment	4236	3989	5442
Number of premises surveyed	2593	1857	2017
Number of infestations found	556	589	306
Number of infestations treated	550	600	292
Number of bodies found	1049	1388	713

To conclude, I should like to express my appreciation of the help and co-operation afforded me during the year by the whole of my staff, and in particular their willingness to give extra time to the work when needed.

I am, Mrs. Mitchell and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

C.W. PAGE.

Surveyor and Senior
Public Health Inspector.

June, 1959.

Deaths per Month in Each Parish

1958 MONTH	Boxley	Headcorn and Hawkenbury	Wormshill	Lenham	Bredhurst	Frinsted	Leeds and Broomfield	Thurnham	Otterden	Boughton Malherbe	Detling	Bicknor	Hollingbourne	East Sutton	Chart Sutton	Wychling	Hucking	Stockbury	Langley	Harrietsham	Ulcombe	Sutton Valence	Waldershade	TOTALS
January	1	2	-	4	-	1	2	-	1	-	2	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	-	20
February	1	1	-	2	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	15
March	4	3	-	4	2	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	26
April	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	1	1	1	2	-	19
May	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	14
June	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	2	1	2	1	16
July	1	-	-	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	3	-	15
August	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	13
September	1	3	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	10
October	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	3		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
November	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	3	2		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	12
December	2	1	1	2	-	-	3	-	1	1	3	1	3	-	3	3	1	-	1	1	-	5	-	24
TOTALS	20	19	1	21	2	1	17	10	11	1	13	1	12	3	4	1	3	11	6	11	5	20	1	194

Total Deaths 1958

Causes of Death	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	2
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	7	6
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1
16. Diabetes	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	20
18. Coronary disease, angina	15	7
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	-
20. Other heart disease	8	8
21. Other circulatory disease	5	4
22. Influenza	1	-
23. Pneumonia	10	1
24. Bronchitis	13	-
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	19	15
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	2
34. All other accidents	1	1
35. Suicide	2	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	-
	109	85

Birth-Rates, Death-Rates and Analysis of Mortality, 1958

	Rate per 1,000 population	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 population				Rate per 1,000	
						Live Births	Related Births
	Live Births	All causes	Tuberculosis	Cancer of Lung	Other cancer	Total Deaths under 1 year	Still Births
England and Wales	16.4	11.7	.09 (p)	.43 (p)	1.68 (p)	22.5	21.6
Hollingbourn R.D.C.	17.14	10.86	.23	.17	1.07	21.89	21.42
Maidstone R.D.C.	16.31	8.56	.05	.31	1.89	10.13	10.03
Malling R.D.C.	16.49	10.71	.16	.43	1.21	20.58	16.86
Maidstone Borough	15.58	9.71	.14	.35	1.75	27.15	17.40
Kent County Council	15.51	11.85	.09	.46	1.64	20.05	18.97

(p) - Provisional Rates.

General Summary

Estimated resident population	16,770
Area (in acres)	56,810
Persons per acre	.295
Annual Birth rate per 1,000 population - crude	16.33
corrected	17.14
Annual Death rate per 1,000 population - crude	11.56
corrected	10.86

	Male	Female	Total
Births	156	118	274
Deaths	109	85	194
Excess of Births over Deaths			80
Pulmonary tuberculosis death rate per 1,000 population			.23
Other tuberculosis death rate per 1,000 population			nil
Cancer death rate per 1,000 population			1.25
Pneumonia (all forms) death rate per 1,000 population			.65